

Thessaloniki Demonstration Alert
July 16, 2011

The U.S. Department of State alerts U.S. citizens traveling and residing in the region of Thessaloniki to the enhanced potential for anti-American demonstrations to coincide with the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Local police have confirmed that at least one demonstration is planned to take place in the immediate vicinity of the Consulate building on Saturday, July 16, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. Demonstrations besides this one may also occur, and U.S. citizens are urged to avoid the area and any other mass gatherings and demonstrations. U.S. citizens should stay current with media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times. This Demonstration Alert expires Monday, July 18, 2011.

The U.S. Embassy in Athens and the Consulate General in Thessaloniki will make every effort to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. Media coverage of local events may cause family and friends to become concerned for their loved ones traveling and residing abroad. We urge U.S. citizens to keep in regular contact with family and friends. U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad are encouraged to enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), to receive the latest travel updates and information and to obtain updated information on travel and security issues. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly with the appropriate U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the U.S. Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency.

Travel information is also available at www.travel.state.gov. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. For information on "What the Department of State Can and Can't Do in a Crisis," please visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at www.travel.state.gov. For further information on specific countries, U.S. citizens should consult the Country Specific Information pages, Travel Alerts, and Travel Warnings at www.travel.state.gov as well as the Worldwide Caution. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs' page on Facebook as well.